REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 16 and 19 are all the claims that were examined. Applicant thanks

the Examiner for indicating that claims 4 and 7 are allowed. The Examiner maintains the same

rejections of claims 1, 10, 13, 16, and 19 as set forth in the previous Office Action. That is,

claims 1, 10, and 13 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by

Riches at el. (US Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0035695). Claims 16 and 19 remain

rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Riches in view of

Malakapalli et al. (US Patent No. 6,467,060).

§102(b) Rejections (Riches) - Claims 1, 10 and 13

The Examiner rejects claims 1, 10 and 13 based on the reasons set forth on pages 2-3 of

the present Office Action, and adds a few new arguments in the *Response to Arguments* section

of the Office Action. Applicant traverses these rejections at least based on the following reasons.

With respect to independent claim 1, Applicant maintains the previously submitted

argument that Riches does not disclose or suggest at least, "wherein a first cyclic redundancy

checking (CRC) code produced from data recorded in said recording medium is recorded in said

cartridge memory and then secured in an unrewritable state," as recited in claim 1. That is, the

Examiner has not established that Riches discusses or suggests the sequence of recording a first

CRC code in a cartridge memory and <u>then</u> securing it in an unrewrittable state <u>after</u> the recording

operation. In response, the Examiner alleges *(Response to Arguments section)*:

> Applicant's arguments filed March 13, 2005, regarding claims 1, 0, 13,
> 16, and 19 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. In
> response to the previous Office Action mailed December 13, 2005,

> Applicant argues that Riches et al. fails to show recording a CRC code in
> a cartridge memory and the securing is in an unrewritable state. The
> Examiner however respectfully disagrees. Riches et al. discloses
> recording codes in a "signature area" within a memory comprising a
> plurality of blocks (for example, see Figs. 2-4) where each code is stored.
> Each code stored in the memory is written to a different memory block.
> It is considered that the codes are secured in an unrewritable state since
> once a code is stored in a block, a next code is written to a subsequent
> block, thus the code stored in the previous block cannot be rewritten
> (page 4, paragraph 92).

In response, Applicant submits that, even if, *arguendo*, Riches discloses recording codes

in a signature area within a memory, nowhere does Riches disclose the specific sequence, as set

forth in claim 1, of recording a first CRC code in a cartridge memory and then securing it in an

unrewritable state after the recording operation. The above-discussed features of claim 1 involve

a specifically claimed sequence and Riches simply does not disclose or suggest these features.

Furthermore, the Examiner's assertion that the codes are secured in a unrewritable state

because a next code is written to a subsequent block is not supported by Riches. For example, in

paragraphs 93-94, Riches discloses deletion and overwrite of signature blocks including tracking

of amendments. The tracking of changes would suggest an over-writable area. Even if,

arguendo, the invention of Riches discloses writing subsequent codes to subsequent blocks, it

does not necessarily follow that a previous block is unrewritable. In fact, nowhere does Riches

disclose or suggest this much. The Examiner is obviously utilizing impermissible hindsight

reasoning in concluding that the codes discussed in Riches are secured in an unrewritable state.

Yet further, Applicant submits that Riches does not disclose or suggest, "wherein a flag

for write protection is generated after completion of said data being recorded in said recording

medium and said cartridge memory is not rewritable," as recited in claim 1. The Examiner cites

pages 2 and 4 (numbered paragraphs 32, 98, and 109) of Riches as allegedly satisfying these

limitations. However, the cited portions of Riches only relate to indicating that a tape is read

only after determining that a pre-determined number of entries to the tape have been exceeded.

However, Riches does not disclose or suggest the specific feature of a flag for write protection

being generated after completion of the data being recorded.

Therefore, at least based on the foregoing, and the arguments previously submitted,

Applicant maintains that Riches does not anticipate claim 1.

Applicant maintains that independent claim 13 is patentable at least based on reasons

similar to those set forth above with respect to claim 1.

Applicant submits that dependent claim 10 is patentable at least by virtue of its

dependency from independent claim 1.

Further, with respect to claim 13, Applicant maintains, as previously argued, that Riches

does not satisfy the specific features set forth in claim 13. Applicant previously argued that there

is no disclosure or suggestion that the recording medium is an optical recording tape, but the

Examiner has still not responded to this specific argument. Therefore, Applicant maintains that

Riches does not anticipate claim 13.

§103(a) Rejections (Riches / Malakapalli) - Claims 16 and 19

Applicant maintains that claims 16 and 19 are patentable at least by virtue of their

dependencies from independent claim 1. Malakapalli does not make up for the deficiencies of

Riches.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed

to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is

kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue

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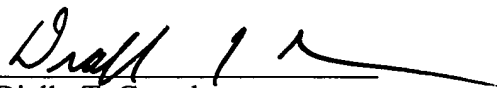
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